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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Items 30, 35 and 74 of the
preliminary list*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 24 April 1992 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your immediate attention:

For the past four months, Israel, the occupying Power, has escalated and stepped up its killing method of Palestinians living in the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank and Gaza. Special Israeli undercover Army units and other security forces have so far killed 30 Palestinians since 9 December 1991, in what amounts to summary execution of wanted youths. The most recent incident took place on 22 April 1992 in the village of Dura near Hebron, when three young Palestinian men were shot at, backs turned, by the Israeli undercover units, to which an Israeli couple were witnesses.

It is worth noting that several human rights groups and media organizations have reported this pattern of killing, among which the daily

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* A/47/50.

Hebrew newspaper Ha'aretz and Al-Haq-Law in the Service of Man published reports on 20 March 1992 and 3 April 1992, consecutively.

This criminal pattern is a clear-cut violation of international law and is a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

The continuation and escalation of repression and killings of the Palestinian people by the occupying Power, Israel, reflect its lack of commitment and seriousness towards achieving peace in the region, as well as towards the current peace talks.

While we recall all the relevant Security Council resolutions and most recently the note by the President of the Security Council (S/23783) of 4 April 1992, in which the members of the Security Council were alerted about the recent pattern of the killing of Palestinians, again we call upon the Security Council and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure respect of all the relevant Security Council resolutions and hold Israel, the occupying Power, responsible and accountable for its actions and its non-compliance with the will of the international community.

We strongly believe that urgent measures have to be taken to provide protection for Palestinians living under occupation, in accordance with Security Council resolution 681 (1990) and other relevant resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 30, 35 and 74 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations